

FIFTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

1888.



WASHINGTON:
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1888.

their hands, and, with a continuance of a steady development of the water-supply, then it will be that the seed sown under instructions of the practical farmer will yield a hundred-fold.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

S. S. PATTERSON,
U. S. Indian Agent.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

NAVAJO AGENCY, N. Mex.,
September 1, 1888.

Sir: I have the honor to submit my third annual report of the Moquis Pueblo Indians under my charge at this agency.

CONDUCT.

Like the Navajos they have enjoyed a peaceful and quiet year, nothing happening to disturb the even tenor of their ways except an occasional wrangle with some neighboring Navajos, growing out of trespass upon stock, crops, and watering places. These troubles, however, are usually of slight character and easily adjusted. There were fewer disturbances this year than last. Heeding the advice of the agent, the Navajos are learning to respect the Moquis' rights. As a means of preventing these occurrences, but this would be a difficult thing to do. For years a considerable number have lived there with established homes and farm improvements, which they are loath to leave. As a general thing the two tribes as a whole get along very well together.

The Moquis are naturally industrious, and with the annual aid from the Government in wagons, tools, and farm implements are enabled to make a fair living from the products of the soil and stock. Their annual wool-clip is about 20,000 pounds. The crops are estimated as follows:

Corn	bushels..	40,000
Melon	15,000
Wheat	bushels..	75 to 100
Pumpkins	5,000
Squash	5,000
Peaches	bushels..	300

The corn is mostly ground into meal for bread—grinding it by hand with two stones, in the old way. I think a small horse-power mill would please them.

HOUSES.

The five families who moved down from the rock-ribbed mesa top have completed new houses by aid of the lumber furnished them; in time, others will desire to follow their example.

ANNUITY GOODS.

The annual supplies were issued in May. Some of them make good use of the wagons, hauling freight from the railroad to Kearn's Cañon. The agent labors until distributed.

Superintendent Gallaher, of the school, has no room to spare; in fact not enough for his own uses. I have twice estimated for a suitable building for the purpose. The agent can ill afford to have property for which he is responsible exposed to unnecessary waste.

SCHOOL.

The school opened at Kearn's Cañon last fall is a complete success, as I had anticipated it would be. Under Superintendent James Gallaher it could hardly be otherwise; he is the right man for the work. This school is already a credit to the service, and if continued as begun will soon be among the best. These Indians take more readily to education than the Navajos.

CENSUS.

The census, as near as can be found, is as follows:

Total	2,215
Males over eighteen years of age	716
Females over fourteen years of age	704
School children between the ages of six and sixteen	420

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. S. PATTERSON,
U. S. Indian Agent.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

REPORT OF PUEBLO AGENCY.

PUEBLO AGENCY,
Santa Fé, N. Mex., September 1, 1888.

Sir: I have the honor to herewith submit my second annual report of my official conduct of the affairs at this agency, together with a statistical report of stock, crops, etc., belonging to the Indians of the agency, having heretofore forwarded a census for year 1886.

During the past fiscal year I have visited the several pueblos (nineten in all) under the care of this agency from one to five times (the one visited but once, Zuni); and while upon my visits have endeavored to give them such instructions as I thought would be of benefit to them.

I have had much trouble in adjusting matters of difference between them and settlers in and near their villages, growing out of alleged trespassing upon the lands of one or the other, or in reference to the use of acequias (water ditches), and in some instances for cutting timber, making new roads, and for various other causes. Law-suits have grown out of some of these disputes and have been adjusted by the courts or are still pending.

LANDS.

The lands occupied by these Indians upon which their pueblos (villages) are located are owned by them in fee-title, derived by grant from Spain, and dating back from one hundred to three hundred years. Some of these pueblos have purchased additional grants, and to some the United States Government has, by Executive orders of the President, reserved certain lands, for grazing purposes principally. The grants, as well as the reservations, are very vague and indefinite. The boundaries are not demarcated with any particularity, and can not be satisfactorily located; no corners or monuments but the grant, to locate the land described. Usually certain ranges of mountains, within mesas, or arroyos are described as the lines. The mountains, mesas, and arroyos are all alike, or frequently so, and frequently so, and a certain arroyo may be the line, or one distant 5 miles bet; they frequently bear the same name. A range of mountains may run the line from 1 to 5 miles. The boundary line of these lands is a matter of conjecture of the Indians it would lead to serious differences. Were it not for the fidelity of the Indians in most cases may possibly cover and hold land, but in some of them the same land is covered by other grants.

I made a special report of one of said grants, i. e., to the pueblos of Jemez, Santano, and Zia, granted for grazing purposes. I find that the greater part of said land is covered by other grants and claimed by other parties, some of them confirmed by Congress. Wherever there is water on said grant, it is occupied or claimed by citizens, some of them having grants as aforesaid. The pueblo of Santa Clara has a large grant purchased by them unconfirmed, and parties have for several years been trespassing upon it. Having no police or authority to remove the trespassers, I am powerless to protect them—the Indians.

While the original grants cover (in most cases) a large territory, the greater portion of the land is worthless and of no practical benefit. The lands that can be irrigated, and hence cultivated (without irrigation there can be no crops raised), is very limited indeed. To illustrate, the pueblo of Poiguague has a grant that calls for 10,220 acres (one of the smallest pueblos and smallest grants); of this there is not exceeding 600 acres of cultivable land, and of this 600 acres the Indians only possess about 100, the other having been in possession of Mexicans and other settlers for many years either by purchase or occupancy. The balance of said land is only